

Please do not limit radio choice by blocking XM's ability to broadcast local traffic and weather. Since most radio stations are already owned by just a handful of media chains, it seems unlikely that allowing XM to broadcast local traffic and weather constitutes anything but healthy competition. For the most part, the FCC's ownership regulations have already destroyed local radio and only increased competition will correct the damage already done. Gone are the days when radio stations put the public interest ahead of local owner's profits; There are far fewer local owners left. More recently, many stations ignore their public service obligations because they broadcast satellite oriented programing, have eliminated local news and sports departments, concentrate on public issue programming only when it is "sold" and charge high, nationally oriented advertising rates which favor national chain businesses at the expense of smaller, local business people.

XM's program content reflects what listeners want: a vast array of music and information choices unavailable on commercial broadcast radio. Most people pay for XM to get content choice, NOT to avoid the commercials broadcast on AM/FM stations.

DON'T TAKE CHOICE AWAY FROM THE PEOPLE.